

INFORMATION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

SUBJECT Major Czech Chemical Concerns

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The following are the Czech Chemical Combines, with factories affiliated to each which are in production today, and the chief products being manufactured:

1. Spolek pro Chemickou a Metalurgickou Vyrobu (Usti Union)

a. Usti nad Labem

Large inorganic industry, sulphuric acid, aniline colors with all by-products, plastics, cyclohexanol, DDT, pure chemicals, artificial fertilizers.

b. Falknov (now Sokolov)

Carbide, treating of acetylene (trichloroethylene), inorganic production.

c. Hrusov (Hruschau)

A very old and obsolete factory. Sulphuric acid, barium sulphates, chemical stoneware, artificial fertilizers.

d. Nestonice

Soda ash, bichromate.

e. Kolin

Sulphuric acid, methylechloride, sublimate of salicylic acid.

f. Pardubice-Rybitin

Aniline colors with all by-products, bearing metals, Auer metal (for flints), drugs and medicaments.

g. Rosice-Slatiny

An old and obsolete factory. Sulphuric acid, artificial fertilizers.

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h. Levošice

Artificial silk.

i. Teresin near Arnan

Artificial silk.

j. Neratovice

Largest producer of staple fiber and all by-products, large electrolytic production of caustic soda lye, saccharine, agricultural protecting chemicals, vinegar, and small production of various chemicals.

2. Incobne a Farmaceuticke Zavody, Bratislavaa. Novaky

Sulphuric acid, carbide, lye, vinyl chloride (a large new unit has just been completed for the production of the latter), plastics.

b. Zilina

Sulphuric acid, polyamides (artificial resin for spinning material similar to nylon called by the Czechs "nylon" and "perlon").

c. A.G. Dynamit Nobel, Bratislava

Sulphuric acid, oleum (fuming sulphuric acid), chlorsulphonic acid (kyselina chlorsulfonova, for acidulants); certain unknown explosives, staple fiber, carbon~~ate~~ disulphide, agricultural protecting chemicals, viscose silk (for the production of the latter a new factory has been constructed, which is scheduled to be in full production by 1950, but it is unlikely that the necessary machinery will be obtained in time).

d. Szolyva Holzwerkstoff A.G., Prague

Charcoal, "kyselina octova" (sic; "kyselina" = acid), acetone, formaldehyde, methylalcohol. There are 4 old and obsolete factories for the production of tar attached to this plant, which employ the old "interrupted method". (A large new factory for the production of tar is under construction near Humenne. It will be equipped with Lambiott machinery for the "uninterrupted method" of production).

e. Hlohovec

Opium alkaloids produced from "poppy straw", pharmaceutical production, morphine, codeine. Annual production of opium alkaloids is about 1,000 kg.

3. Montan und Industriewerke (J. D. Stark)

a. The brown coal mines at Falknov (now Sokolov) belonging to the above concern have been taken over by Severoceske Hnedouhelne Doly, n.p. (North Bohemian Brown Coal Mines, National Corporation).

b. Unterzeichenau

Sulphuric acid, "zelezite barvy (pigmenty)", citric acid, "zluta krevni sul".

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c. Brasy (Bras near Pilsen)

An organic industry, chemical stoneware.

d. Kazneiov (Kasniau)

Production unknown.

4. Vereinigte Carborundum und Elektrikwerke - with own hydroelectric plant at Elbe (capacity unknown).a. Nove Benatky

Carborundum, all sorts of grindstones, small graphite electrodes for electric motors.

5. Ostravska Chemicka Zavody n.d. (ex-Stickstoffe, Prague)a. Marianske Hory (Marienberg)

- 1) Synthetic ammonia by the Claud high pressure system, saltpeter, nitric acid.
- 2) A large new unit at this factory for synthetic ammonia by the medium-pressure method should be ready for production in 1950.
- 3) A large new unit for the production of carbon black is under construction. This was not included in the Five-Year Plan, but was added later as an urgent top priority project.
- 4) A new factory for the production of nitrogen compounds is under construction in Martinov near Ostrava.

b. Petrovice near Bonumin (formerly Larrisch-Moonich)

Oxygen, medical oxygen, sulphuric acid, plastics, soda ash, ammonium carbonate, hexamethylenetetramin, artificial fertilizers, distillation of tar (Nitters) with all by-products, phenol, anthracene, naphthalene, and all derivatives of pyridine.

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